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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER

**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

**COMPARISON OF PRODUCTION BUILDINGS AT
SHIKHANY, DZERZHINSK RULON 148,
AND VOLGOGRAD BEKETOVKA 91, USSR**

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COMPARISON OF PRODUCTION BUILDINGS AT SHIKHANY, DZERZHINSK
RULON 148, AND VOLGOGRAD BEKETOVKA 91, USSR

1. Photography of four similar production buildings at three plants in the Soviet Union has been examined to see if the production process could be determined. The production [redacted]

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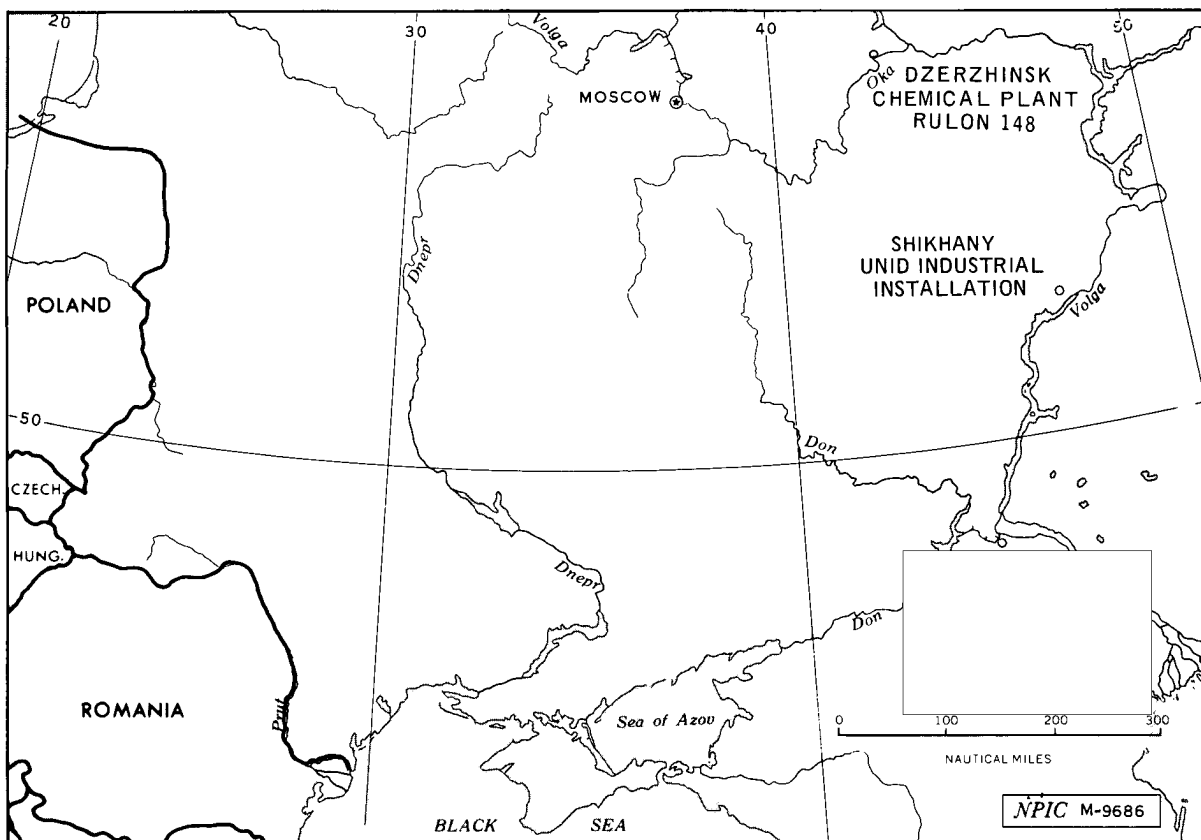
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[redacted] or missile fuel or fuel additives was considered as a possible function for the buildings. No definitive function could be assigned.

2. These production buildings have been identified at Shikhany Unidentified Industrial Installation,¹ Dzerzhinsk Chemical Plant Rulon 148,² and Volgograd Chemical [redacted] (Figure 1). The similarities in size and configuration noted on photography of April 1970 and September 1969 prompted the examination of many chemical plants and combines throughout the USSR for other installations with this type of production building; however, none were identified.

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3. The similarities in size and configuration among the buildings identified (Figures 2, 3, and 4) suggest a common function. However,



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FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP

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each building could contain a different process and produce a different end product. The sizes of the two buildings at Shikhany,* the one at Rulon 148 and the one at Beketovka 91, are compared below:

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*A scale model of the Shikhany plant is available at the National Photographic Interpretation Center for study by interested parties.

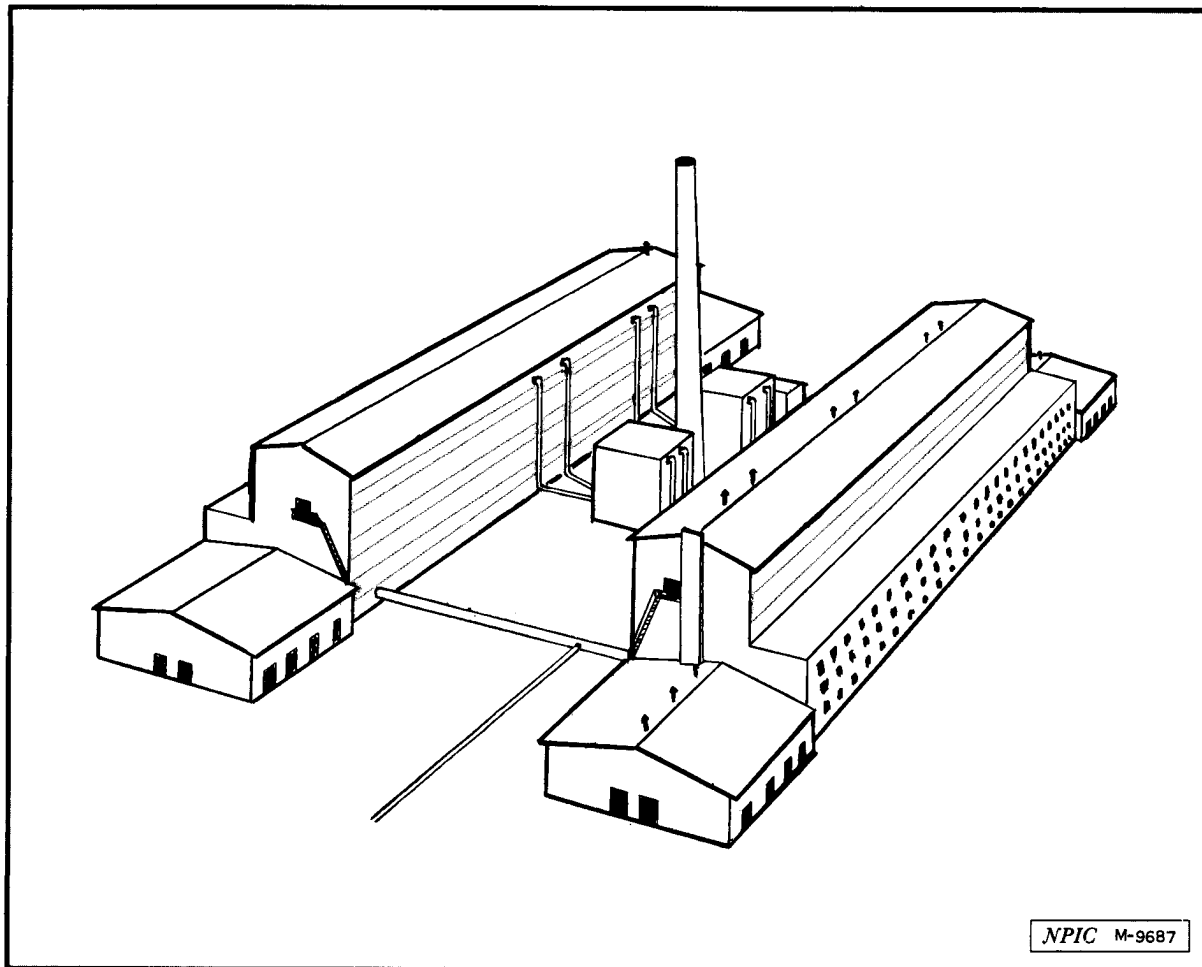


FIGURE 2. SHIKHANY PRODUCTION BUILDINGS

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Additional similarities include associated tall stacks and possible air incinerator/filtration buildings (two at Shikhany and Rulon 148, and one at Beketovka 91) that might be used for the removal of toxic pollutants.

4. The buildings at Rulon 148 and Beketovka 91 appeared to be complete and operational when first observed on photography of 1964 and 1963, respectively. Construction was started on the two buildings at Shikhany in 1962, but they were not yet operational in April 1970.

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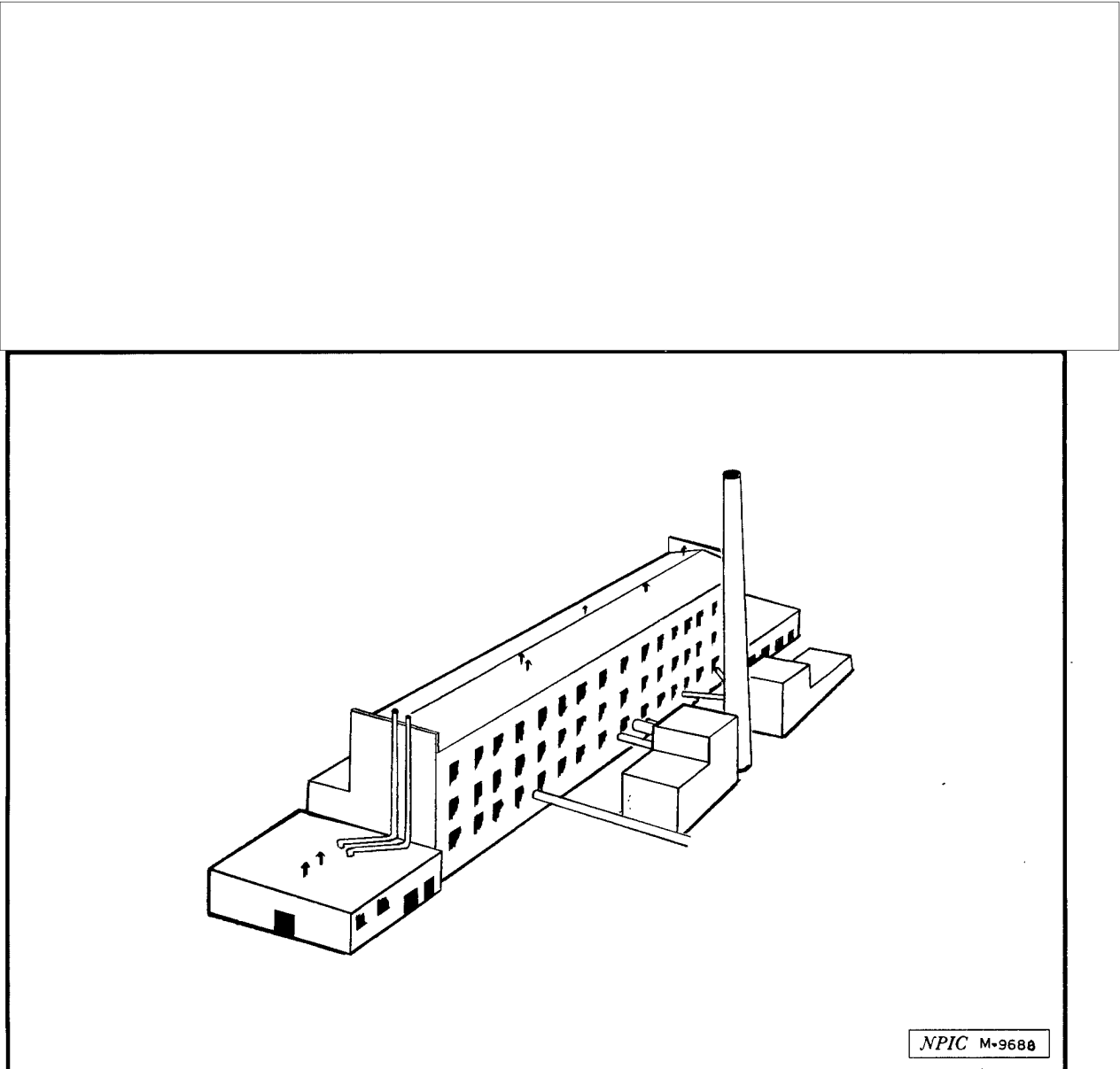


FIGURE 3. DZERZHINSK RULON 148 PRODUCTION BUILDING

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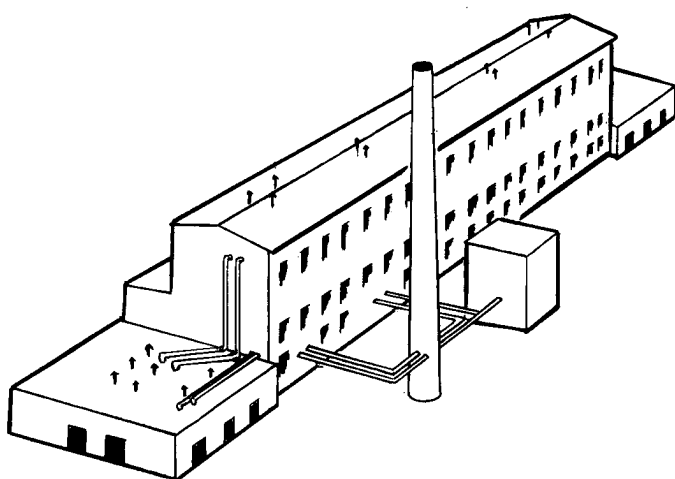
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FIGURE 4. VOLGOGRAD BEKETOVKA 91 PRODUCTION BUILDING

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7. There is no photographic evidence of the production of missile fuels or fuel additives such as unsymmetrical dimethyl hydrazine (UDMH) or boron compounds at any of the similar buildings. These and other fuels or fuel additives have toxic fumes and if the process is within a building, the air probably would have to be exhausted from the working area and filtered or incinerated prior to venting into the atmosphere. The presence of tall stacks and possible air filtration/incineration buildings made these possible products worthy of consideration.

8. A multistory possible workshop building is in the immediate vicinity of the similar building at Beketovka 91. A multistory possible workshop building also is located at Shikhany (Figure 5). At Beketovka 91 a large rail-served unidentified processing building to the northeast may be connected by a pipe gallery to the similar building. An open storage and warehouse area is situated to the southeast immediately outside the security wall. To the northwest are five recently constructed cooling towers (Figure 6).

9. A representative list of products reported to have been produced at Beketovka 91 since World War II is: various chlorine compounds, various phosphorus compounds, various sulphur compounds, numerous acids, [redacted] and liquid oxygen. [redacted]

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10. A possible workshop building, a possible powerplant, three large unidentified production buildings, a possible borane plant, and a possible hydrazine plant are located in the immediate vicinity of the similar building at Rulon 148 (Figure 7). A representative list of products reported to have been produced at Rulon since World War II is: alcohol, ether, acetone, various acids, [redacted] basic resin, synthetic resins, and plexiglass. [redacted]

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11. The environs of the similar production building at Shikhany are not discussed, as this plant is still under construction and not in operation. There is no information on products or intended products at the Shikhany plant.

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